

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 36.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 23, 30, and 32 to read as follows:

Please add new claims 44-49.

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for implementing an intrusion detection system in a network, comprising:
 - receiving a request from a central server at a software agent program installed on ~~each one~~ of a plurality of remote computers to initiate ~~an~~ intrusion detection services ~~on each respective one of the plurality of remote computers~~, wherein the request is issued by the central server in response to a notification of a network intrusion, wherein the intrusion detection software includes a stop condition indicating when to stop executing the intrusion detection software, wherein the stop condition includes a condition that no intrusion has been detected for a period of time;
 - installing intrusion detection software on said remote computers via said software agent program in response to the request from the central server; and
 - executing said intrusion detection software on said remote computers via said software agent program.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - receiving from the central server a request to terminate intrusion detection services at said software agent program.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
 - monitoring for fulfillment of a stop condition; and:
 - ceasing the executing of the intrusion detection software when the stop condition is fulfilled.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said stop condition is based on network traffic conditions.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said stop condition is an expiration time.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

selecting said remote computers from a plurality of eligible computers.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said selecting step is accomplished based on a network map.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said selecting step is accomplished based on a knowledge base.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said request is verified using a cryptographic authentication scheme.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said request includes a stop condition indicating when to stop executing the intrusion detection software.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein said stop condition is an expiration time.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said stop condition is based on network traffic conditions.

14. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said request is verified using a cryptographic authentication scheme.

15-22 (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A system for detecting intrusions in a computer network comprising:

a plurality of computers executing software agents;

~~an intrusion detection server; and~~

a database configured to store at least one rule defining at least one response to a network intrusion; ~~and;~~

~~wherein said an intrusion detection server is configured to send a request to install and execute intrusion detection software to software agents at the plurality of the computers when intrusion detection services are needed based on the at least one rule stored in said database, wherein the intrusion detection software includes a stop condition indicating when to stop executing the intrusion detection software, wherein the stop condition includes a condition that no intrusion has been detected for a period of time.~~

24. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein said intrusion detection server increases the number of said plurality of computers executing intrusion detection software when a network intrusion is detected.

25. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein said intrusion detection server changes the number of said plurality of computers executing intrusion detection software when the level of network traffic changes.

26. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein said intrusion detection server changes the number of said plurality of computers executing intrusion detection software depending on the time of day.

27. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein said database contains information about the plurality of computers.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein said information includes a map of said computer network.

29. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein said database contains a knowledge base.

30. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions adapted to be executed by a processor, the instructions which, when executed, define a series of steps to be used to perform network intrusion detection, said steps comprising:

receiving notification of a network intrusion at a central server;

transmitting an intrusion detection software installation request from the central server to a plurality of remote computers in response to the notification, wherein the request includes a stop condition indicating when to stop executing the intrusion detection software, wherein the stop condition includes a condition that no intrusion has been detected for a period of time; and

installing intrusion detection software on the plurality of remote computers via a software agent program in response to the request.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 30, further comprising the step of selecting said remote computers from a plurality of eligible computers based on the notification of a network intrusion.

33. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 32 wherein said selecting step is accomplished based on a network map.

34. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 32 wherein said selecting step is accomplished based on a knowledge base.

35. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 30 wherein said request is verified using a cryptographic authentication scheme.

36. ~~Canceled~~ (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 30 wherein said request includes a stop condition indicating when to stop executing the intrusion detection software.

37. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36 wherein said stop condition is an expiration time.

38. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 36 wherein said stop condition is based on network traffic conditions.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein intrusion detection services are initiated at a plurality of remote computers selected based on a number of intrusion detection platforms that are currently active.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein intrusion detection services are initiated at a plurality of remote computers selected based on predetermined numbers of maximum and minimum limits on a number of intrusion detection platforms.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the stop condition applies to all eligible computers.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising monitoring for fulfillment of a stop condition at each of the plurality of remote computers executing intrusion detection software.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the stop condition for each of the plurality of computers is based on a time during which each of the plurality of computers has been executing instruction detection software.

44. (New) A method for intrusion detection in a network comprising:
receiving indication of a possible network intrusion;
selecting one of a plurality of computers in the network to become an intrusion detection platform, wherein selecting one of the plurality of the computers is based on the indication of a possible network intrusion;
sending a request to the selected computer to install and execute intrusion detection software, wherein the request is sent in response to the received indication of the possible network intrusion; and
sending a message to the selected computer to cease execution of the intrusion detection software when a stop condition is detected, wherein the stop condition includes a condition that no intrusion has been detected for a period of time.

45. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein receiving the indication of a possible network intrusion comprises receiving an indication of a part of the network that is a target of the possible network intrusion; and
wherein selecting one of the plurality of computers is based on the indication of the target of the possible network intrusion.

46. (New) The method of claim 45 wherein selecting one of the plurality of computers is based on the indication of the target of the possible network

intrusion comprises selecting a computer at or near the target of the possible network intrusion.

47. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein selecting one of the plurality of computers is based on the indication of a possible network intrusion includes selecting of the computer based on an unusual pattern of network traffic.

48. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein selecting one of the plurality of computers if is based on the indication of a possible network intrusion includes selecting one of the plurality of computers based on an unusual number of incoming network packets directed at a network segment.